



**MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP**

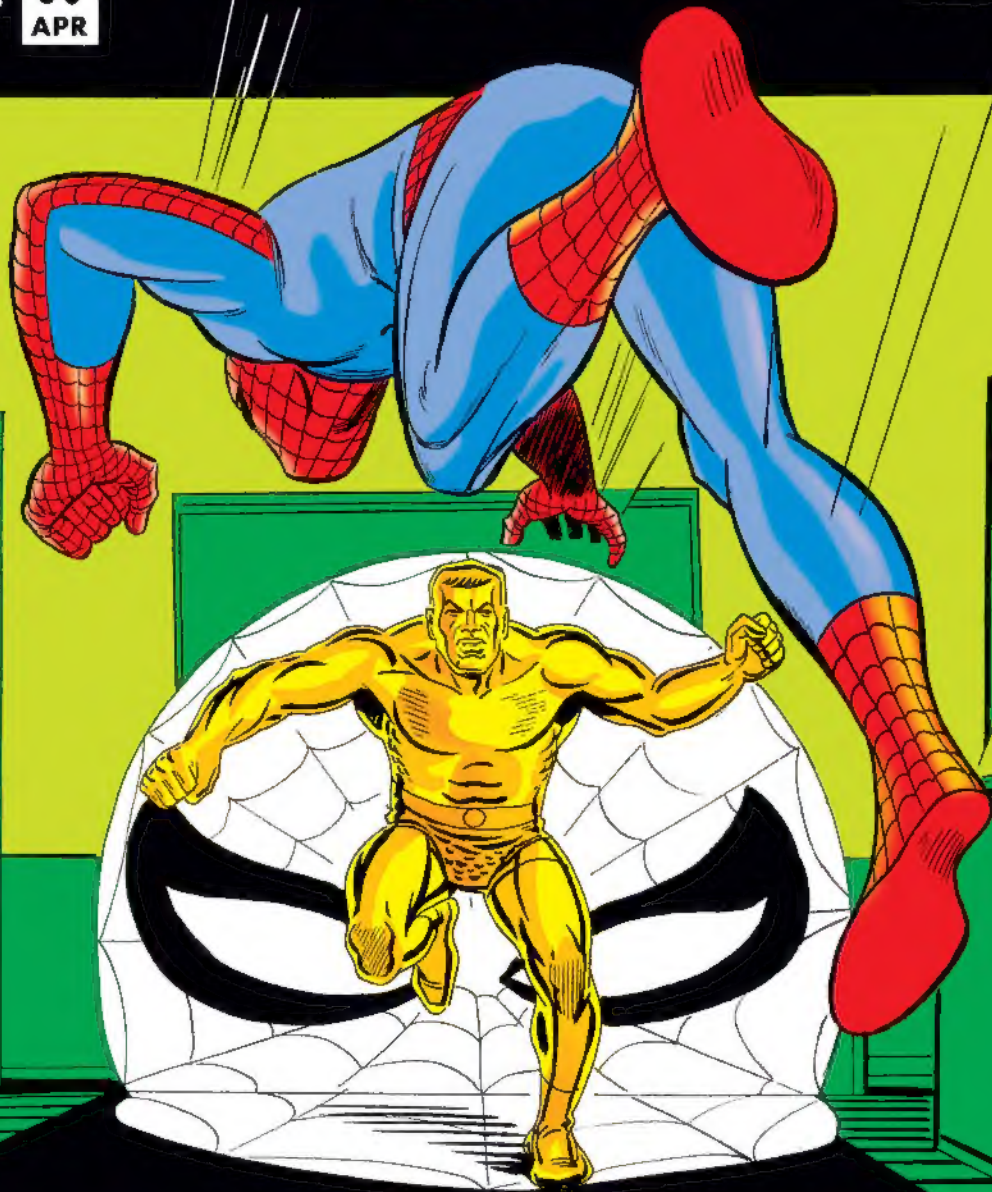
**35
APR**

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

the **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**

IND.

12¢



"The MOLTEN MAN Regrets...!"

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

"THE MOLTEN MAN REGRETS...!"

IT'S CHANGE-OF-PACE
TIME ONCE AGAIN,
SO CLIMB ABOARD
FOR THE ACTION...!



THIS ONE
IS FOR THE REAL
OLD-FASHIONED, DYED-
IN-THE-WOOL SPIDEY
FANATICS WHO LIKE TO
SEE OL' WEB-HEAD FIGHT-
ING AS ONLY HE CAN!
WE ENVY YOU...YOU'RE
GONNA HAVE
YOURSELF A
BALL!

SCRIPT &
EDITING..... STAN LEE

PLOT &
ARTWORK.... STEVE DITKO

LETTERING &
LOITERING.... ART SIMEK

OUR SOMEWHAT SENSATIONAL SAGA BEGINS WHERE SO MANY OF THEM **END**--IN A COLD, SOMBER PRISON CELL, SOME MONTHS AGO, WHERE WE FIND...

OKAY, RAXTON, LOOK ALIVE! HIZZONER WANTS TO SEE YOU! SO LET'S GO!

FINALLY GONNA SENTENCE ME, HUH? WELL, I'M NOT WORRIED! THEY TELL ME HE'S USUALLY SOFT ON FIRST OFFENDERS!



MINUTES LATER, ONE OF THE STRANGEST FOES SPIDER-MAN HAS EVER FOUGHT LOSES HIMSELF AMONGST THE CITY'S TEEMING MILLIONS ONCE AGAIN...

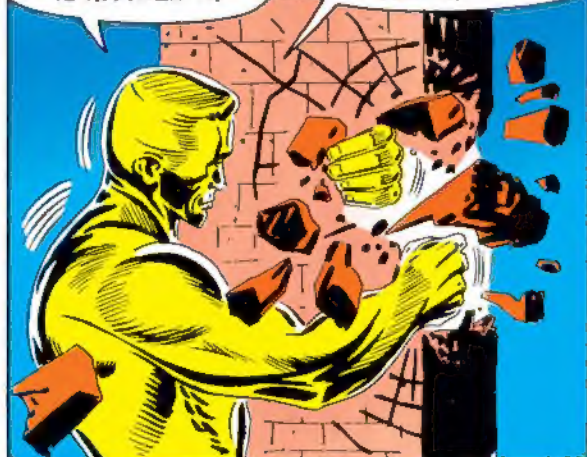
FREE AT LAST! LUCKY I WAS A MODEL PRISONER AND ACTED REPENTANT!

NOW IT'S UP TO ME TO MAKE SURE I STAY FREE! NO MORE JAILS FOR THE **MOLTEN MAN**!



SPIDER-MAN BEAT ME THE FIRST TIME WE FOUGHT. FOR MY POWER WAS NEW TO ME! I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW TO HANDLE IT!

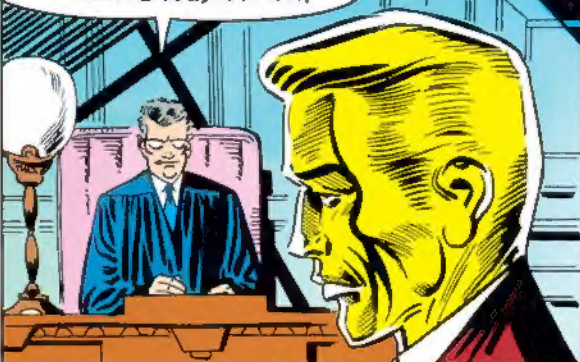
BUT NOW, I'VE HAD TIME TO THINK--TO PLAN--TO MAKE SURE THAT THE **MOLTEN MAN** WILL NEVER BE BEATEN AGAIN!



AND, IT SEEMS THAT THE **MOLTEN MAN** HAS BEEN TOLD **RIGHT**--!

BECAUSE YOU BECAME WHAT YOU ARE THRU AN UNFORE-SEEN **ACCIDENT**-- AND YOU HAVE OFFERED TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGES YOU'VE CAUSED-- I'M GIVING YOU A **SUSPENDED SENTENCE**, RAXTON!

THANKS, YOUR HONOR! YOU WON'T BE SORRY!



*AS SPRIGHTLY SHOWN IN **SPIDEY#28**-- STAN.

LATER, IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS OWN APARTMENT, RAXTON PEELS OFF HIS OUTER CLOTHES, AGAIN TO REVEL IN HIS AWESOME POWER...

HAH! I'M AS STRONG AS EVER --MAYBE EVEN STRONGER!

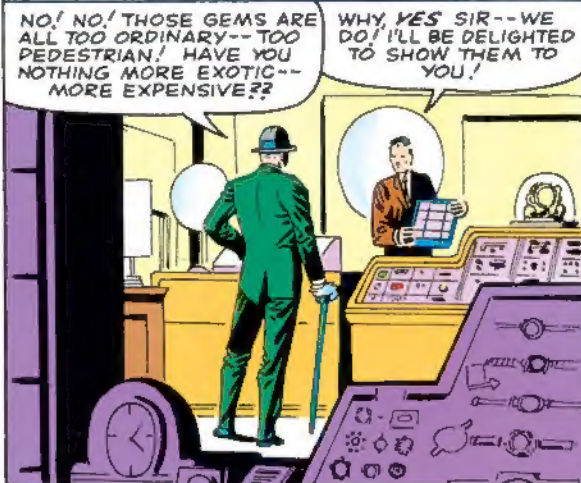


I WON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE OF RUNNING WILD A SECOND TIME, USING NOTHING BUT MY POWER! THIS TIME I'VE FIGURED ALL THE ANGLES--

FIRST, I'LL LAY LOW FOR A WHILE --AND THEN-- I'LL STRIKE!



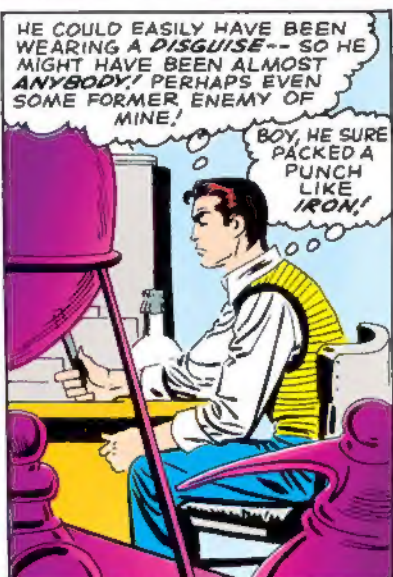
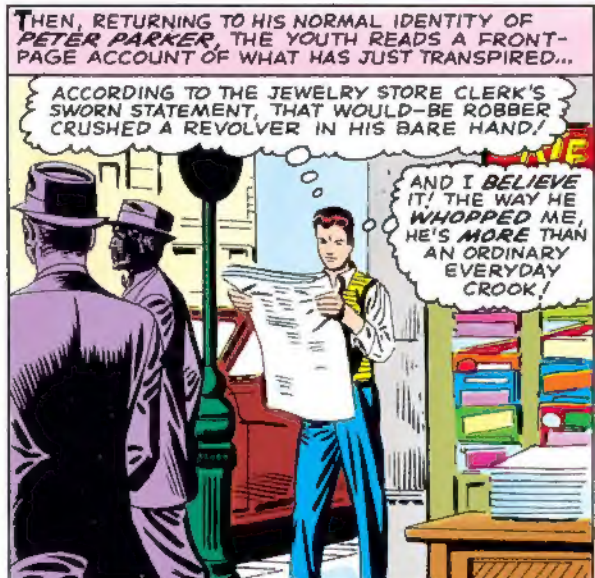
THUS, THRU THE MAGIC OF OUR IMAGINATION, WE NOW BRIDGE THE GAP OF TIME! MANY DAYS LATER, AN EXCLUSIVE MADISON AVENUE JEWELRY SHOP RECEIVES A DISTINGUISHED-LOOKING PATRON...



BUT, AS A SAGACIOUS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, OUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IS BLITHELY ROMPING ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS DIRECTLY ABOVE AT THAT VERY MOMENT! (WHICH IS AS LUCKY FOR US AS FOR THE MERCHANT BELOW--ELSE WE'D HAVE A SUPER HERO YARN *SAYS* SUPER HERO.)







WITHIN SECONDS, THE AMAZING WEB-SLINGIN' ADVENTURER IS BACK ON THE PROWL AGAIN AS HE HEADS FOR A SEEDY ROOMING HOUSE, NEAR THE WATERFRONT...



IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY, THIS IS WHERE MOLTEY LIVED THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT!

NOTHING'S CHANGED MUCH! NO REASON TO THINK HE MOVED ANYWHERE ELSE! HE PROBABLY STILL LIVES HERE!



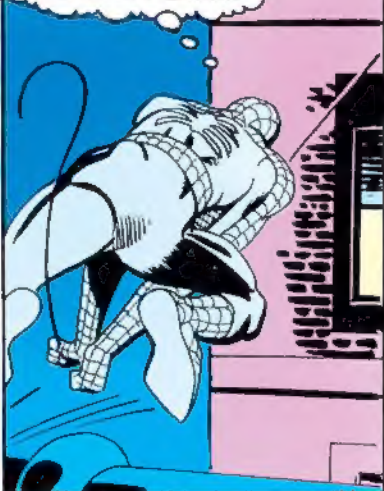
THE PLACE IS EMPTY NOW--BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING!

NO HARM IN WAITING AROUND FOR A WHILE AND SEEING WHAT HAPPENS!

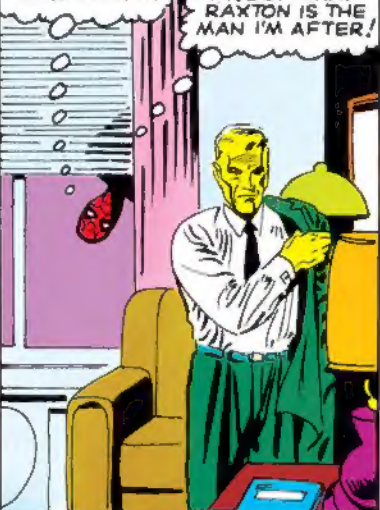


THEN, BEFORE TOO VERY LONG...

A LIGHT JUST WENT ON! HE'S BACK!

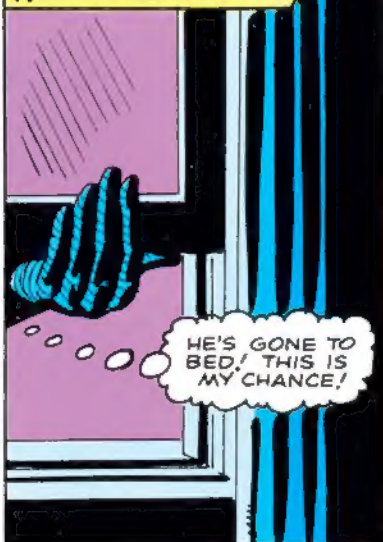


I WAS RIGHT! HE'S LIVING HERE AGAIN!



BUT, I STILL HAVE NO PROOF THAT RAXTON IS THE MAN I'M AFTER!

A HALF HOUR LATER...

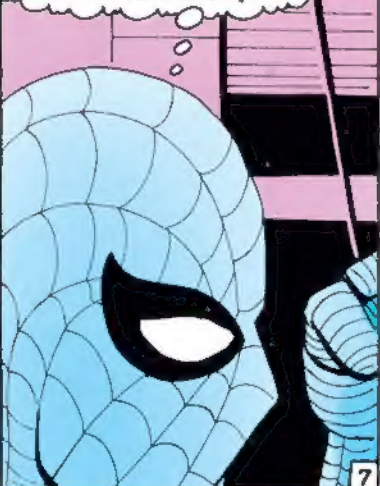


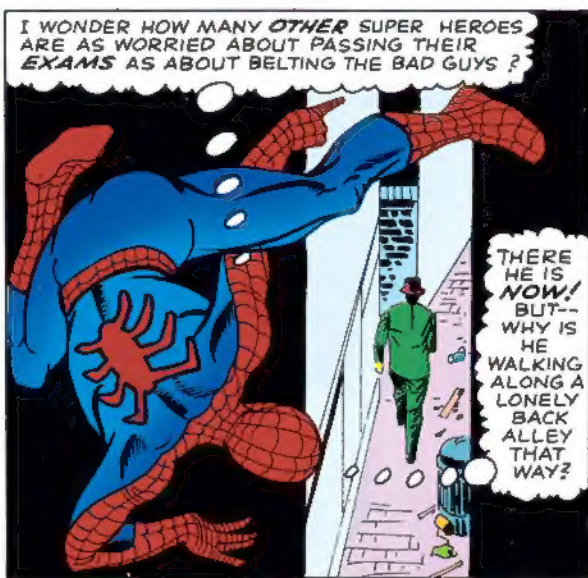
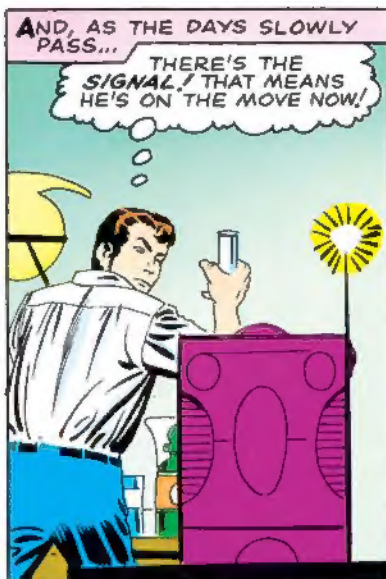
HE'S GONE TO BED! THIS IS MY CHANCE!

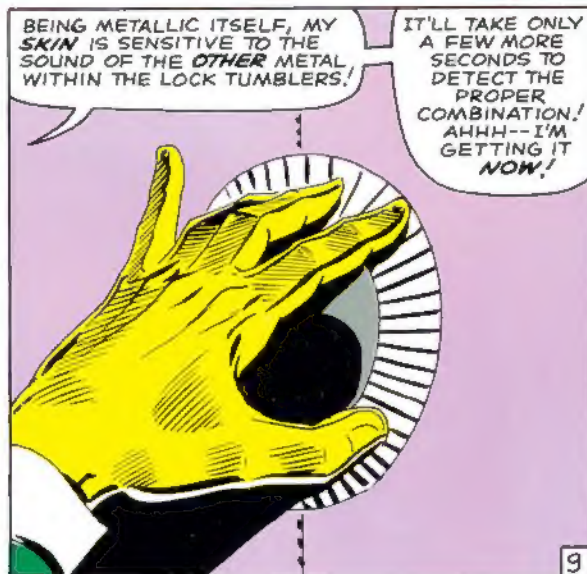
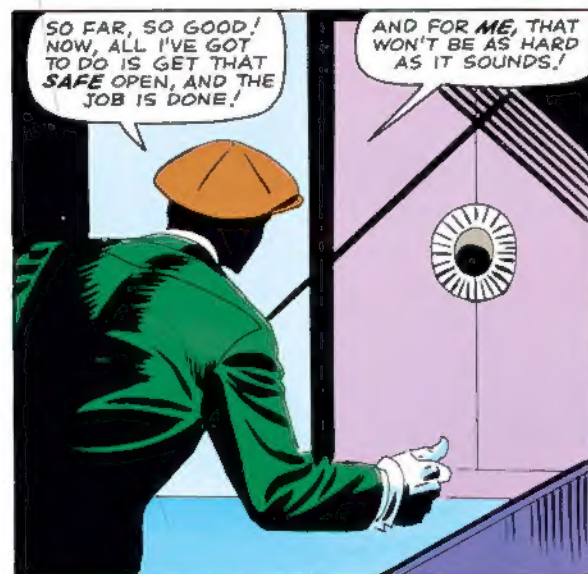
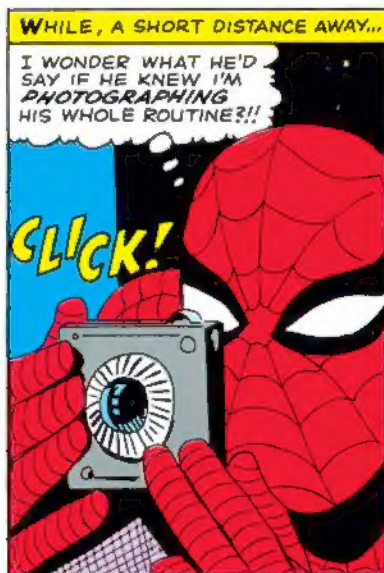
I'LL JUST STICK ONE OF MY LITTLE "SPIDER TRACERS" BEHIND THE LAPEL OF HIS JACKET -- THERE!

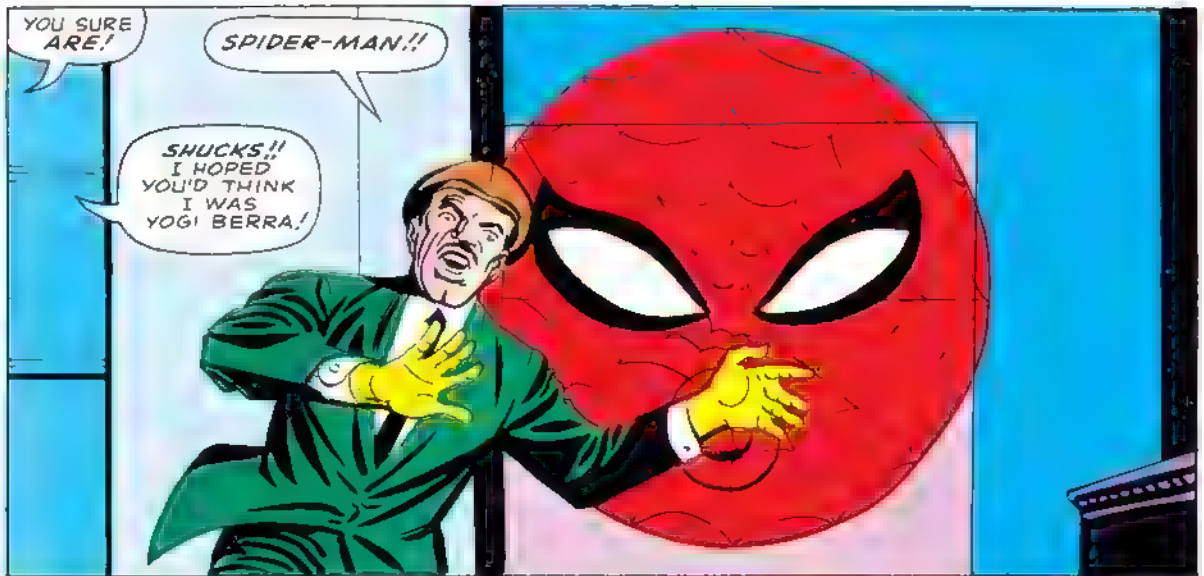


THAT'S THAT! NOW IT'LL BE A CINCH FOR ME TO KEEP TABS ON HIM, NO MATTER WHAT!





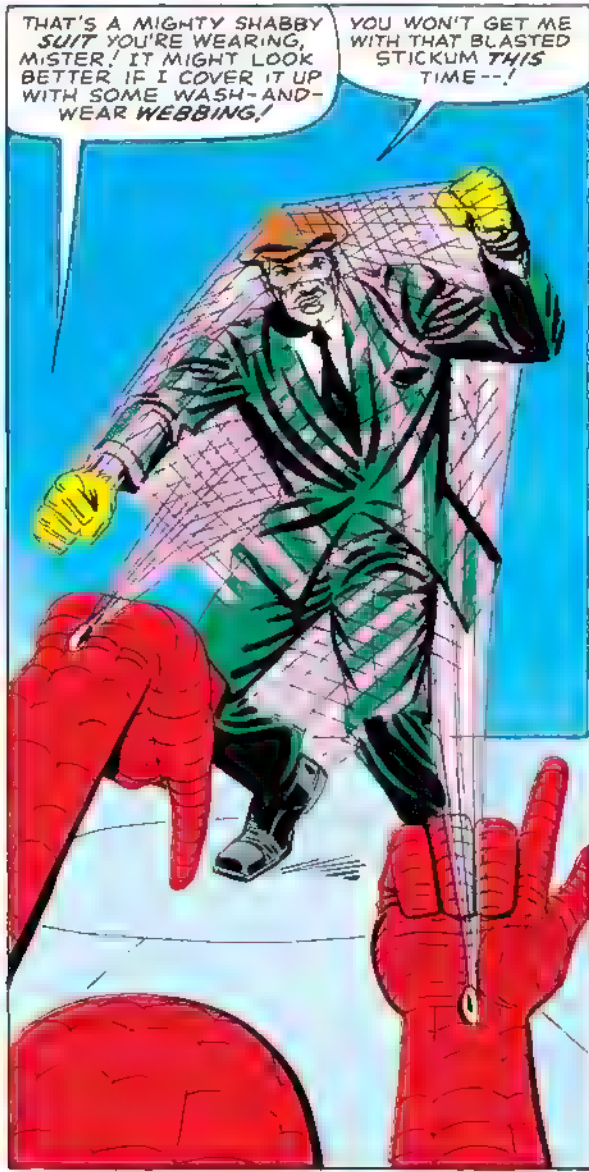




YOU SURE ARE!

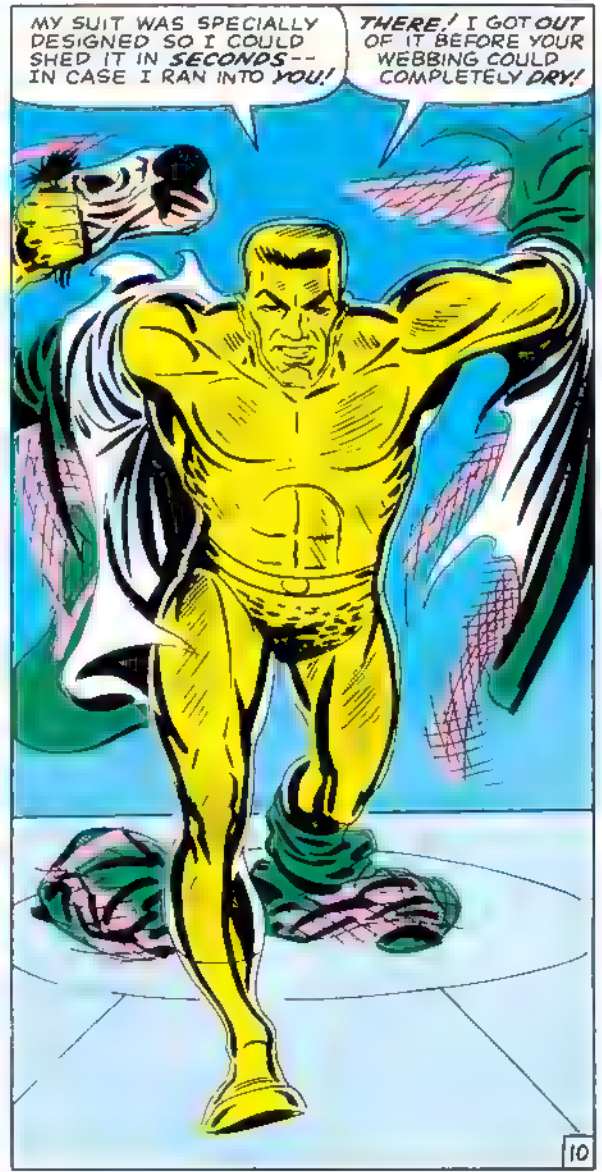
SPIDER-MAN!!

SHUCKS!!
I HOPED
YOU'D THINK
I WAS
YOGI BERRA!



THAT'S A MIGHTY SHABBY
SUIT YOU'RE WEARING,
MISTER! IT MIGHT LOOK
BETTER IF I COVER IT UP
WITH SOME WASH-AND-
WEAR WEBBING!

YOU WON'T GET ME
WITH THAT BLASTED
STICKUM *THIS*
TIME--!

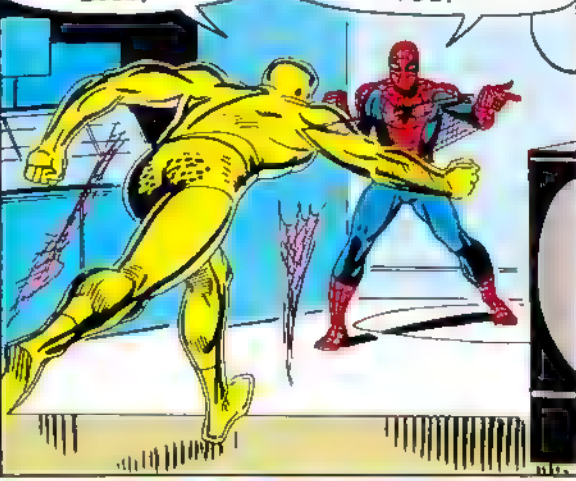


MY SUIT WAS SPECIALLY
DESIGNED SO I COULD
SHED IT IN *SECONDS*--
IN CASE I RAN INTO YOU!

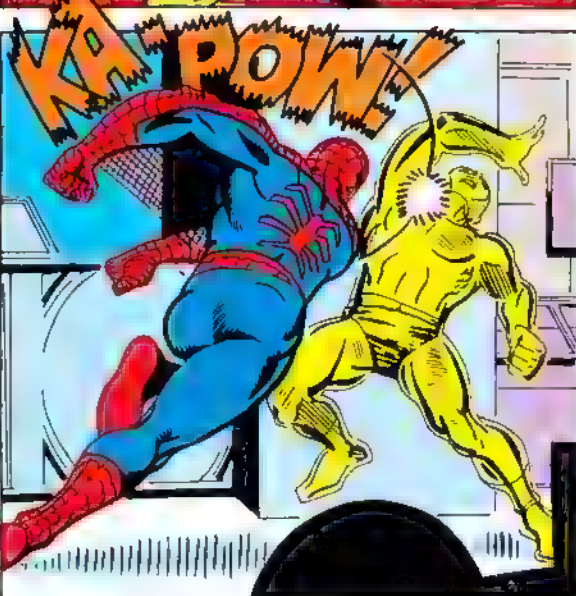
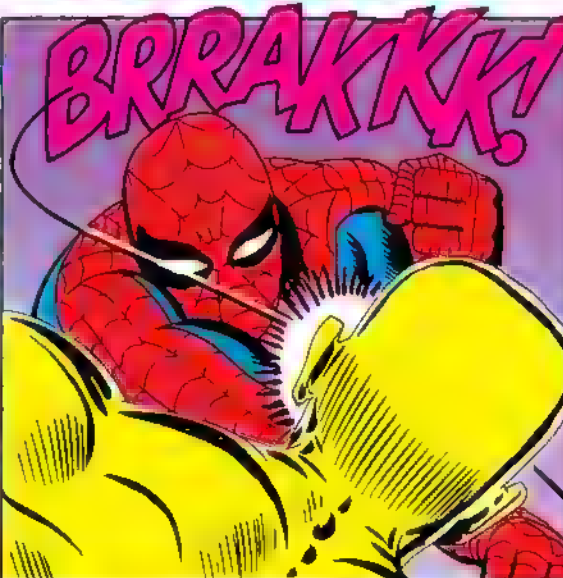
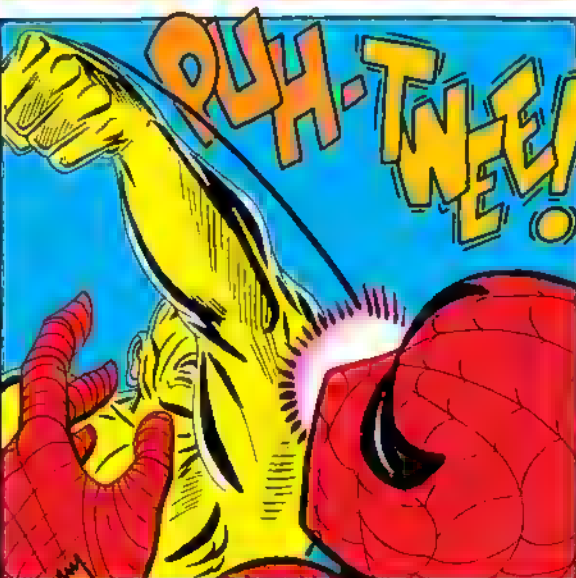
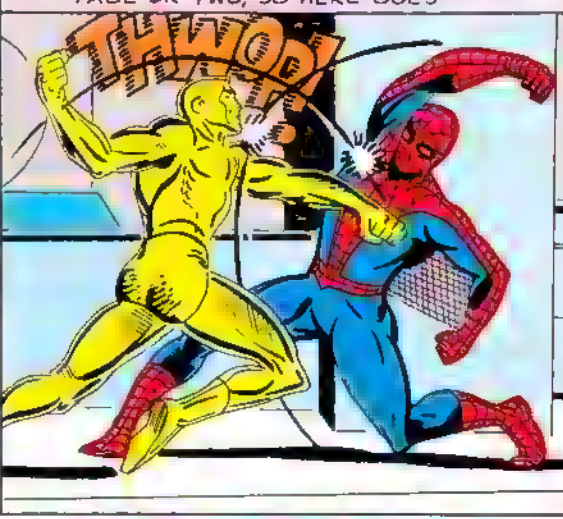
THERE! I GOT OUT
OF IT BEFORE YOUR
WEBBING COULD
COMPLETELY DRY!

SO, YOUR BEST WEAPON IS **TOTALLY USELESS!** IT CAN'T STICK TO MY SLIPPERY, MOLTEN BODY!

TOO BAD! IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A PLEASURE TO SHUT YOUR SLIPPERY, MOLTEN MOUTH FOR YOU!



AND NOW, WE PROMISED **ARTIE SIMEK** WE'D LET HIM GO WILD WITH SOUND EFFECTS FOR A PAGE OR TWO, SO HERE GOES--





HAH! I PROVED I
COULD TAKE THE
BEST YOU CAN
DISH OUT!

AND NOW, FROM
HERE ON IN, I'M
GONNA BE CALLING
THE TUNE--HEAR??

FIRST, USING THE METALLIC POWER
OF MY MOLTEN BODY, I'LL CRUSH
ALL THE FIGHT OUT OF YOU WITH AN
UNBREAKABLE BEAR HUG!

YOU'RE JUST WHISTLING IN
THE DARK, MOLTEY--

YOU CAN'T
BEAT ME
THAT WAY!



NO BEAR HUG CAN STOP MY
WEBBING FROM ZIPPIN' UP
TO THE CEILING, AND STICK-
ING THERE!

WHAT
GOOD'LL
THAT DO
YOU?



I WAS HOPING YOU'D ASK!

YOU'RE BLUFFING!

THINK SO? JUST
WATCH--!



MOVING WITH
DAZZLING
SPEED, THE
AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN
DOES A SUDDEN,
BREATH-TAKING,
ACROBATIC
FLIP-OVER,
AND THEN...

CAN'T HOLD
ON!! FALLING!!
HAVE TO
LET GO--!

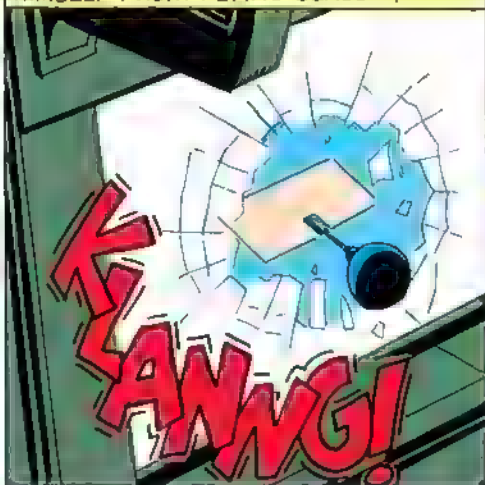
HOPE YOU'RE PAYING
ATTENTION, MOLTEY!
YOU'LL BE THE ENVY
OF THE PRISON GYM
WHEN YOU DEMONSTRATE
THIS LITTLE STUNT TO
YOUR FELLOW INMATES!

AND NOW,
JUST HOLD
THAT POSE,
MISTER!

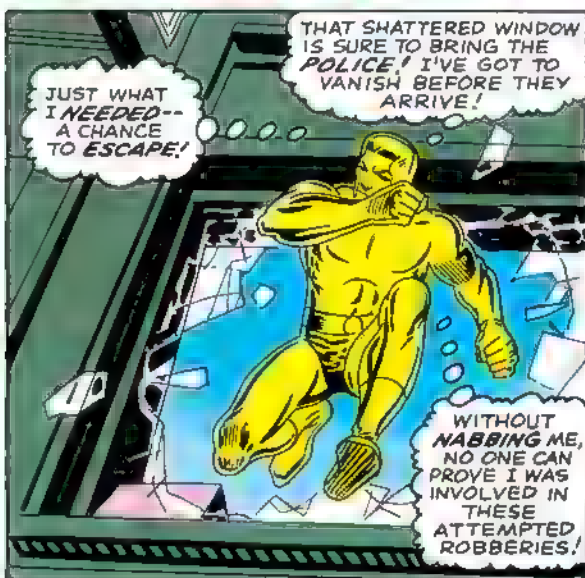
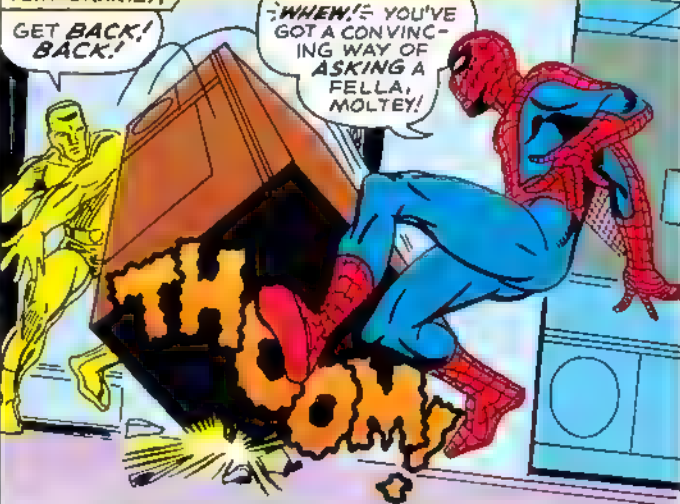
BOY! YOU'LL TRY ANYTHING
WHEN YOU'RE DESPERATE, HUH?

BUT A FEW WILD KICKS
AREN'T GONNA STOP ME
NOW, YOU GOLDEN GOON!

BUT, HIS RANDOM KICK DOES HELP THE MOLTEN MAN, FOR IT CAUSES SPIDEY TO COVER HIS FACE IN ORDER TO SHIELD HIMSELF FROM FLYING GLASS--!



AND, IN THAT BRIEF INTERVAL, THE METALLIC MENACE MANAGES TO GAIN THE INITIATIVE AGAIN--ALBEIT TEMPORARILY!



JUST WHAT I NEEDED-- A CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

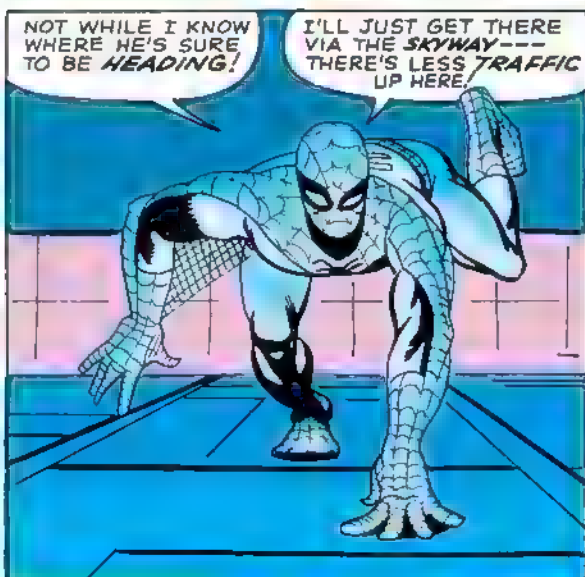
THAT SHATTERED WINDOW IS SURE TO BRING THE POLICE! I'VE GOT TO VANISH BEFORE THEY ARRIVE!

WITHOUT NABbing ME, NO ONE CAN PROVE I WAS INVOLVED IN THESE ATTEMPTED ROBBERIES!



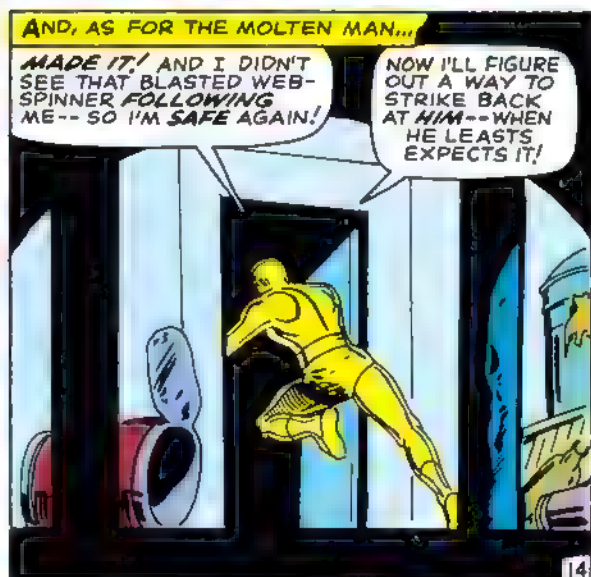
HE'S GONE AGAIN!

BUT THIS TIME HE WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!



NOT WHILE I KNOW WHERE HE'S SURE TO BE HEADING!

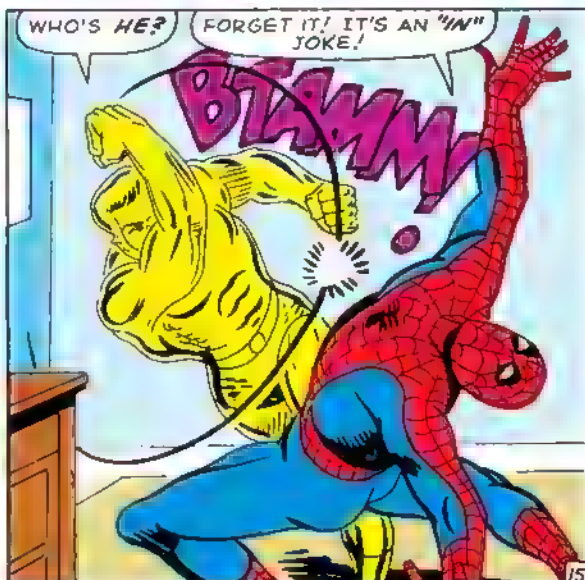
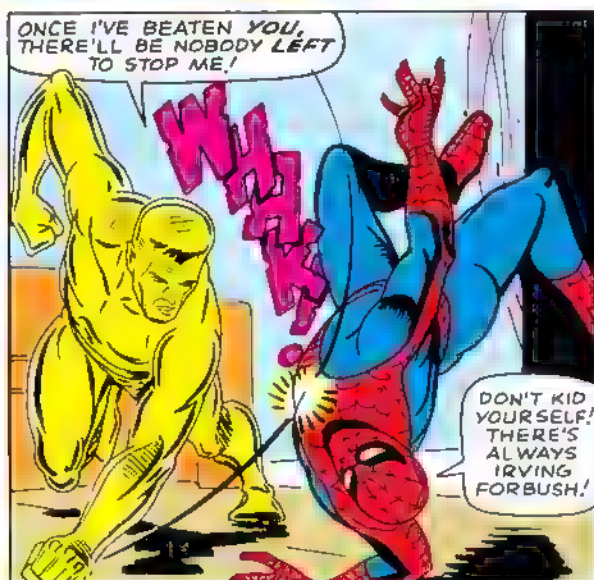
I'LL JUST GET THERE VIA THE SKYWAY--- THERE'S LESS TRAFFIC UP HERE.

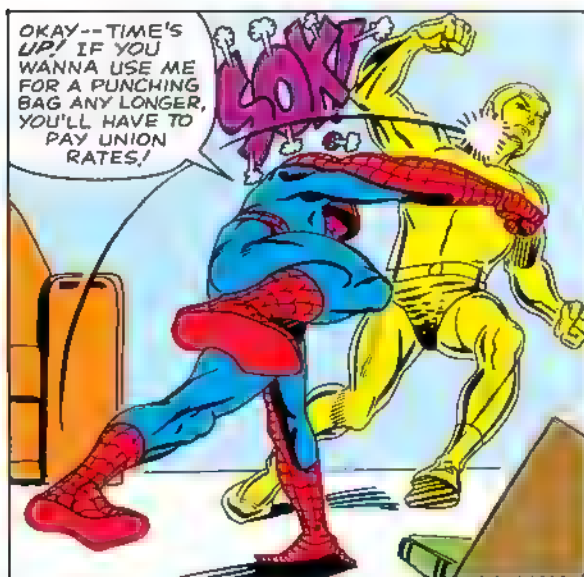


AND, AS FOR THE MOLTEN MAN...

MADE IT! AND I DIDN'T SEE THAT BLASTED WEB-SPINNER FOLLOWING ME-- SO I'M SAFE AGAIN!

NOW I'LL FIGURE OUT A WAY TO STRIKE BACK AT HIM-- WHEN HE LEASTS EXPECTS IT!





OKAY--TIME'S UP! IF YOU WANNA USE ME FOR A PUNCHING BAG ANY LONGER, YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY UNION RATES!

POW!



AND NOW, HERE'S SOMETHING I HAD MADE SPECIALLY FOR YOU! I DON'T WANT TO BE UNPREPARED IF I LEARN IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!



IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING, IT'S THE BETTER TO TIE YOU UP WITH, RED RIDING HOOD!

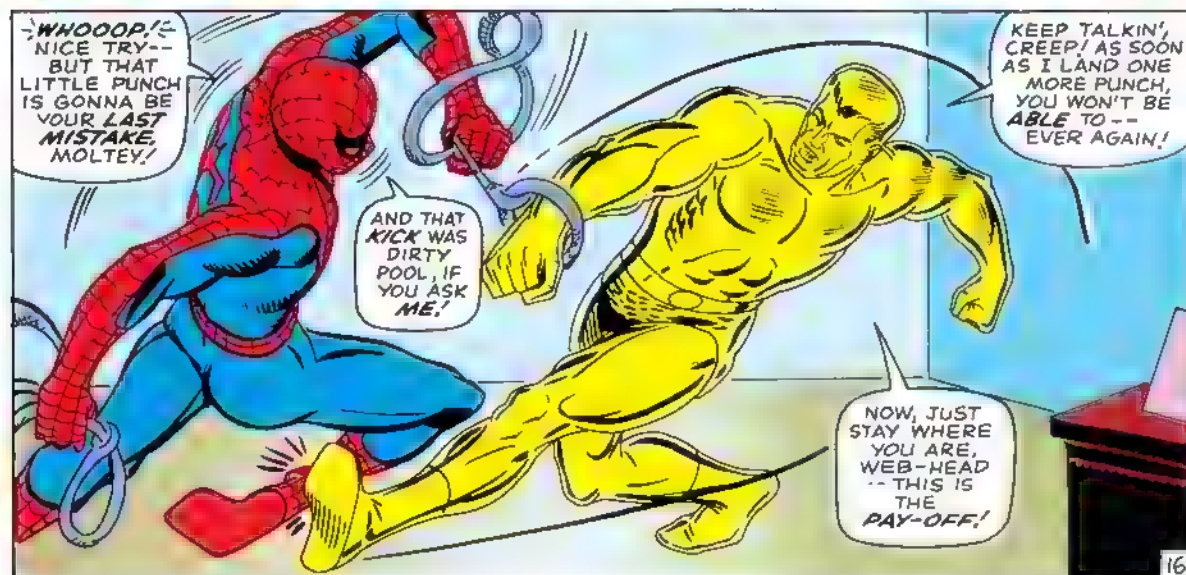
IT'LL BE EASIER THAN SKINNING MY KNUCKLES ALL DAY ON YOUR THICK HEAD!



OH NO, WISE GUY! I'M NOT GONNA BE AS EASY TO TRAP AS I WAS LAST TIME WE FOUGHT!

I'M A LOT SMARTER, AND STRONGER, AND TOUGHER THAN I USED TO BE!!

SURE! AND YOU PROBABLY HAVE 23% FEWER CAVITIES, TOO! SO WHAT?!!



WHOOOP! NICE TRY-- BUT THAT LITTLE PUNCH IS GONNA BE YOUR LAST MISTAKE, MOLTEY!

AND THAT KICK WAS DIRTY POOL, IF YOU ASK ME!

KEEP TALKIN', CREEP! AS SOON AS I LAND ONE MORE PUNCH, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO -- EVER AGAIN!

NOW, JUST STAY WHERE YOU ARE, WEB-HEAD -- THIS IS THE PAY-OFF!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, BIG MOUTH--ESPECIALLY SINCE I'VE GOT **BOTH** YOUR HANDS NOW!

BAH!
WHAT
DOES
THAT
MEAN
??!

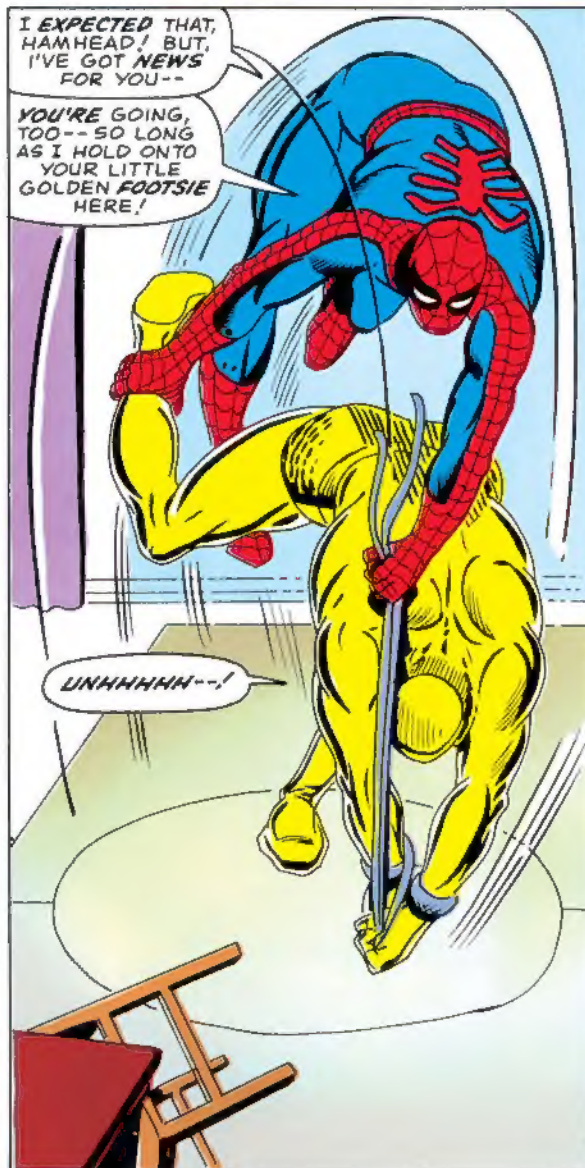


JUST KEEP HOLDING ON, YOU MASKED NITWIT! ONCE I SWING MY ARMS AROUND, YOU'RE GOING FOR A **RIDE** YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!



I EXPECTED THAT, HAMHEAD! BUT, I'VE GOT **NEWS** FOR YOU--

YOU'RE GOING, TOO-- SO LONG AS I HOLD ONTO YOUR LITTLE **GOLDEN FOOTSIE** HERE!



UNHHHHH--!

AND NOW, FOR THE **COUP DE GRACE!**

WHEN YOU GET TO THE PRISON LIBRARY, YOU CAN BORROW A DICTIONARY AND LOOK THAT UP, LITTLE MAN!



ALL RIGHT-- SO YOU'VE GOT ME HOG-TIED! SO WHAT? YOU CAN'T **PROVE** I WAS INVOLVED IN ANY ROBBERIES! IT'LL JUST BE **YOUR** WORD AGAINST **MINE!**

I'LL BE AS FREE AS THE BREEZE LATER ON-- FREE TO PAY YOU **BACK** FOR THIS--IN **SPADES!**

BOY! ARE YOU ABOUT TO LEARN THE **FACTS** OF LIFE--!



MINUTES LATER, A SCENE WHICH OCCURRED A FEW MONTHS AGO IS REPEATED ANEW-- TO THE EXTREME DISCOMFITURE OF A MAN NAMED RAXTON...

GET ME OUT OF HERE!
YOU'VE NOTHING ON ME!

ACCORDING TO THIS NOTE FROM SPIDER-MAN, IF WE HOLD YOU FOR A LITTLE WHILE, HE'LL BRING US PROOF THAT YOU WERE INVOLVED IN SOME ROBBERY ATTEMPTS!

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS GETTING TO BE A HABIT WITH YOU, FELLA!

WELL, I GUESS WE CAN STAND YOUR COMPANY FOR A WHILE, IF YOU'LL PUT UP WITH OURS!

GET HIM DOWN FROM THERE! WE'LL HOLD HIM ON SUSPICION OF ROBBERY FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN!

HOLD IT, NOW! EVEN THOUGH THE ACTION'S OVER, WE WANT YOU TO STICK AROUND FOR THE WRAP-UP! IT WON'T TAKE LONG...

FOR ONCE EVERYTHING WORKED OUT PERFECTLY! I HAD MY CAMERA ALL SET UP AND SNAPPED EVERYTHING I NEED!

WOW! I CAN HEAR RAXTON BELLOWING TO BEAT THE BAND FROM 'WAY OUT HERE!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I KNOW MY RIGHTS! YOU CAN'T KEEP ME HERE! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! I'M AS INNOCENT AS A NEW-BORN BABY!

WE'RE GLAD TO HEAR THAT, RAXTON! WANT US TO FETCH YOUR FORMULA FOR YOU?

ANYWAY, IF YOU GO CHARGING OUT OF HERE, YOU'LL PROBABLY JUST GET TIED UP BY SPIDER-MAN AGAIN! YOU'RE BETTER OFF WHERE YOU ARE!

YOU TELL 'IM, SARGE!

MY EARS WERE BURNING! SOMEONE MENTION MY NAME?

THESE PICTURES SHOULD GIVE YOU ALL THE EVIDENCE YOU NEED TO HOLD THE MOLTEN MAN UNTIL HE TARNISHES!

SPIDER-MAN! YOU KEPT YOUR WORD!

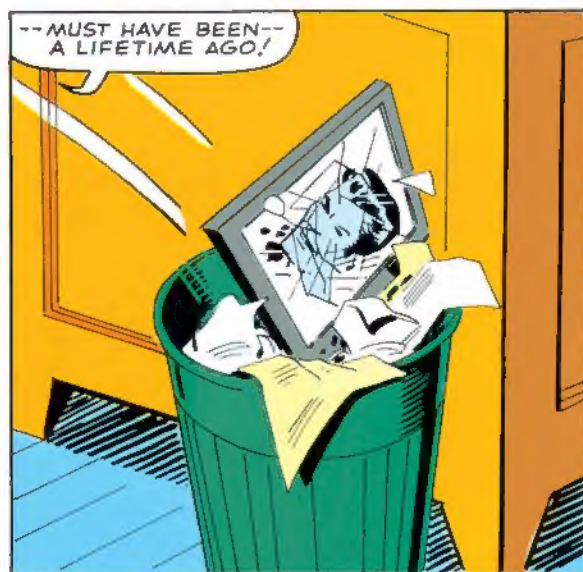
LET ME SEE WHAT'S IN THAT ENVELOPE! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

SURE, TAKE A LOOK! BELIEVE IT NOW, MISTER RAXTON?


SHOTS OF ME CHANGING DISGUISE-- BREAKING INTO THE SHOP-- EVERYTHING! N-HOW--??

BRING YOUR NOTEBOOK, LOU! WE'VE GOT A CONFESSION COMING UP!





**NEXT
ISH...**



...A SWINGIN'
SUPER-VILLAIN,
SO DIFFERENT,
SO NEW, WE
CAN'T EVEN
TELL YOU HIS
NAME YET!

LET'S MEET HIM TOGETHER
IN *SPIDER-MAN #36!*
'NUFF SAID!